OPINION 876

PROTEINUS LATREILLE, 1796 (INSECTA, COLEOPTERA): DESIGNATION OF A TYPE-SPECIES UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS

RULING.—(1) Under the plenary powers all designations for the nominal genus *Proteinus* Latreille, 1796, made prior to the present Ruling, are hereby set aside, and the nominal species *Dermestes brachypterus* Fabricius, 1792, is hereby designated to be the type of that genus.

(2) The following generic names are hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology with the Name Numbers specified:

(a) *Proteinus* Latreille, 1796 (gender: masculine), type-species, by designation under the plenary powers in (1) above, *Dermestes brachypterus* Fabricius, 1792 (Name No. 1839);

(b) *Brachypterolus* Grouvelle, 1913 (gender: masculine), type-species, by designation by Jelinek & Steel, 1966, *Cantharetes gravidus* Illiger, 1798 (Name No. 1840).

(3) The following specific names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology with the Name Numbers specified:

(a) *brachypterus* Fabricius, 1792, as published in the binomen *Dermestes brachypterus* (type-species of *Proteinus* Latreille, 1796) (Name No. 2297);

(b) *pulicarius* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the binomen *Dermestes pulicarius* (Name No. 2298).

HISTORY OF THE CASE (Z.N.(S.) 1763)

The present application was submitted to the office of the Commission by Dr. J. Jelinek and Dr. W. O. Steel in June 1966. The application was sent to the printer on 8 July 1966 and was published on 20 December 1966 in *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **23** : 239–240. Public Notice of the possible use of the plenary powers was given in the same part of the *Bulletin*, as well as to the other prescribed serial publications (Constitution Art. 12b; *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **21** : 184) and to seven entomological serials. No comment was received.

DECISION OF THE COMMISSION

On 19 August 1968 the Members of the Commission were invited to vote under the Three-Month Rule on Voting Paper (68)30 either for or against the proposal set out in *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **23** : 240. At the close of the prescribed voting period on 19 November 1968 the state of the voting was as follows:

Affirmative votes—twenty-two (22), received in the following order: China, Simpson, Vokes, Munroe, Mayr, Holthuis, Uchida, Obruchev, Mertens, Kraus, Lemche, Jaczewski, Tortonese, Starobogatov, Bonnet, Sabrosky, Ride, Binder, Brinck, Melville, Alvarado, Forest.

Negative votes—none (0).

On Leave of Absence—one (1): Evans.

Commissioner do Amaral returned a late affirmative vote.

The following comments were made by Commissioners in returning their votes:

Mr. E. Eisenmann (21.ix.68) " On the data provided I prefer not to vote on this application, for no information has been supplied as to *current* usage. It appears that, although this application was made in 1966, Blackwelder in 1952 (fourteen years before) had called attention to the technical necessity under the then Règles of transferring *Proteinus* Latreille to a genus different from that to which it had customarily been applied. While I am much opposed to transfers of generic names, as productive of confusion, *if* general usage since 1952 has accepted the transfer (about which nothing is said) it would cause even more confusion to effectuate a re-transfer now."

Dr. W. D. L. Ride (12.xi.68) " I must qualify my vote. I vote in the affirmative for this application on the basis of the case stated in paragraphs 6 and 7. Unfortunately these do not entirely follow from what has gone before and I suspect that there is an omission in paragraph 3 which would explain how *Brachypterolus* Grouvelle is a synonym of *Proteinus* Latreille. Presumably this is on the basis of synonymy between *Dermestes pulicarius* Linnaeus and one of the two first included species of *Heterostomus*. I am without the relevant literature to check this. If I am wrong in my assumption please ignore my vote."

Note. In answer to Mr. Eisenmann's comment, Dr. Steel assures us that *Proteinus* has not, to his knowledge, been used in Blackwelder's sense since 1952. In answer to Dr. Ride, the two species originally included in *Heterostomus* Jacquelin Du Val, *Brachypterus cinerus* (Heer, 1841) and *B. gravidus* (Illiger, 1798), are both currently regarded as synonyms of *Dermestes pulicarius* Linnaeus.

Original References

The following are the original references for names placed on Official Lists by the Ruling given in the present Opinion:

Brachypterolus Grouvelle, 1913, *Ann. Soc. ent. France* **81** : 387
brachypterus, Dermestes, Fabricius, 1792, *Ent. syst.* **1** : 235
Proteinus Latreille, 1796, *Précis Caract. Ins.* : 9
pulicarius, Dermestes, Linnaeus, 1758, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) **1** : 357.

The following is the original reference for the designation of a type-species for a genus concerned in the present Ruling:

For *Brachypterolus* Grouvelle, 1913 : J. Jelinek & W. O. Steel, 1966, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **23** : 240.

CERTIFICATE

We certify that the votes cast on Voting Paper (68)30 were cast as set out above, that the proposal contained in that Voting Paper has been duly adopted under the plenary powers, and that the decision so taken, being the decision of the International Commission, is truly recorded in the present Opinion No. 876.

R. V. MELVILLE
Secretary

W. E. CHINA
Assistant Secretary

International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature
London
13 *January* 1969